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Notes and Descriptions

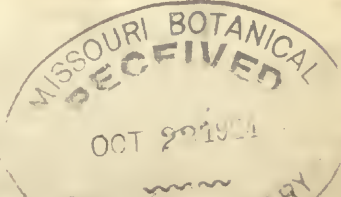
Part IV.

*Edited by the Secretary*  
R. S. STURTEVANT  
Wellesley Farms, Mass.

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Sir Galahad (Shull) S. mauve, F. pansy violet



Exhibition. Freeport, Ill. 1924  
An Unusually effective arrangement



In the Garden of Mrs. Wheeler H. Peekham, New Rochelle, N. Y.

## The 1924 Iris Season

John C. Wister

The year 1924 will be remembered as the latest Iris season we have ever had, and as one particularly disastrous in the south on account of a winter freeze after growth had started, and in the middle west on account of frosts in late May when flowers were almost in bloom. In the eastern states, however, we were not so unfortunate but in some places the bloom was not as good as usual on account of prolonged wet, cool weather which caused a good deal of rot and perhaps also on account of the extraordinary drought of last summer which prevented a free formation of flowering buds on some varieties. As the Iris is a flower that likes drought this seems an extraordinary statement, but I have noticed in many places that in the dryer spots of the garden the plants were not as free flowering as in moister situations this year. I regard this as an extremely unusual circumstance and that it does not affect the general rule to plant in the best drained positions.

The late spring made the first Irises late but in such years the Iris season is usually rushed by later hot weather and much shortened. This year it was longer than usual. The first of the *Pumila* types came into bloom in Philadelphia on April 26th and as usual *Azurea* was the first of all. By May 1st they were making a good show and continued good until May 10th. They were practically gone by the 15th. The first Intermediate to bloom was *Halfdan* on May 10th. By the 14th the Intermediates and Germanicas and early *Cengialtis* were making a fine showing. They reached their height May 18th, were fine for another week and practically gone by June 3rd.

Of the varieties I classify as Late Tall Bearded, *Brionense* opened on May 19th and *Mandaliscæ* followed a day or two later. There was



a good scattering of bloom by May 25th but the height of the bloom which in my garden has never before been later than Decoration Day, did not come till June 8th, and the flowers continued to make a fine display until June 16th. A few late varieties hung on until June 21st.

I have made notes on nearly 100 varieties of Dwarf Bearded Iris this year and these notes have confirmed my previous impressions. At least three quarters of the varieties are worthless on account of poor form and muddy colors and should be discarded forthwith. That leaves us about 20 or 25 standard varieties to choose from. In picking out our varieties we can classify them according to height. The earliest ones are usually the dwarfest and among these Azurea, Orange Queen, and the newer Black Midget, Marocain and Oriental, are about the best. In the medium sizes, that is about 6 to 12 inches, are Cyanea, Socrates, Eclipse, Bride, Negus and Niobe, while in the taller class one foot and up are Statellae, Schneekuppe, Glee and Gorgeous. I would like to recommend also Bluebeard, one of the homeliest of all Iris, on account of its delicious fragrance. If these better varieties could be made more available in our nurseries I am sure they would be popular for edging herbaceous borders and for rockeries.

I have written often before about the Intermediates and there is little new to say. Diamond, Dolphin, Fritjof, Halfdan, Helge, Ingeborg and Prince Victor have year after year proved themselves splendid growers and bloomers. In 1922 in Europe it seemed to me that Queen Flavia was the best of the yellows and this year we have two newcomers that seem to be still clearer. Scledad (Mohr) is the taller of these, and Yellow Hammer but a few inches shorter, and both are a clearer and brighter yellow than Helge. If they do as well in the future it will mean that they should replace all the older yellow kinds.

In my garden I have become accustomed to group the Germanicas with the Intermediates as they bloom practically at the same period. Florentina and Kochi are about the best of these and for those who do not like Germanica, the type, I would recommend either Violet Queen or Firmament. I have been somewhat puzzled about Firmament. It is a beautiful flower but in my garden it is identical with an unnamed variety sent to me by Mr. Presby who said that it had been in his family for generations, so that it can hardly be classed as a novelty. I am also classing with the Intermediates the early Cengialti hybrids, Bluet, King George V, and Perry's Favorite, and all three are well worth growing.

Of more recent novelties Cretan is a little darker than Kochi and may be valuable for that reason. I was interested to note that it set a seed pod, which is something I have not often seen on Kochi, but it remains to be seen whether the seed will be fertile. Sapphire is a very lovely pale blue with a fine orange beard. Another newcomer is Gnome (Bliss) which is larger and lower than Kochi.

The late varieties are more and more of a puzzle each year. I think we may safely say that the symposium ratings published by the American Iris Society are in the main very fair on the standard varieties introduced before 1910 or 1915. All varieties introduced since 1910 or 1915 have the glamour of novelty and I believe it too strongly influenced the voters. Most of them I believe have been over rated. I do not mean to say that they are not good things, for most of them are, but some are not enough better than the old varieties to warrant the higher rating.

The jurors in voting also took into account the question of height and I am glad to see that there is a reaction against considering only extreme height. We need the small flowers just as much as the large ones, and it is easy to see that we shall need before very long a classifi-

cation which will classify the old varieties into Dwarf, Medium and Tall, the Dwarfs to be a foot or 18 inches and the Medium varieties being 18 to 30 or 36 inches, and the Tall varieties over 30 or 36 inches. I make this merely as a suggestion and as an example would mention among the good Dwarf varieties that are often overlooked because of their small size, Apollon, Aurea, Dalila, Elinor, Gajus, Maori King, Mrs. H. Darwin, Mrs. Neubronner, Tom Tit, Trautlieb, White Knight and many others.

In the Medium class belong such things as Ambigu, Archeveque, Arnols, Eldorado, Flavescens, Loreley, Mary Garden, Mithras, Mrs. Alan Grey, Othello, Opera, Quaker Lady, Queen Alexandra, Queen of May, Sherwin Wright, Vesuve and Wyomissing.

This would throw into the Tall class such flowers as Alcazar, Ambassadeur, Asia, Ballerine, Celeste, Cluny, Corrida, Crusader, Halo, Isoline, Jacquesiana, Lent A. Williamson, Lord of June, Miranda, Mme. Chereau, Pallida Dalmatica, Prospero, Rhein Nixe, Sarpedon, Tamar, etc. It will be noted at once that nearly all the novelties fall into the Tall class and only one or two of the older varieties like Mme. Chereau are to be found there, while in the Dwarf class are nearly all the older varieties.

I believe that these three classes have equal value in the garden and that we should stop placing undue emphasis on height.

There is also another way of looking at this matter, that is to divide them into the small flowered and the large flowered. Here again the preponderance of opinion has been for the large flowers and the discarding of the smaller ones, but I believe very strongly that such small flowered varieties as Apollon, Lavendulacea, Mary Minanelle, Mrs. Alan Grey, Mrs. Neubronner, National, Oporto, Othello, Sherwin Wright and Wyomissing have a distinct and useful place in the garden and should not be pushed aside merely because the flowers do not compare with the modern flowers of Cluny, Dora Longdon, Mrs. Fryer, Lent A. Williamson, Lord of June, Miranda, Nibelungen, Prosper Laugier, Sarpedon and many others.

These are just random notes on these matters with the hope that they may be taken up in considering future classifications. We need further than this a classification into early and late varieties, of what we now call the Tall Bearded late section. For instance Brionense, Mandraliscae, Gertrude, Miranda, Oporto and Belladonna are among the earliest of these, while Mozart, Lord Gray, Raffet, Black Knight and Richard II are among the latest. It is well to emphasize these two qualities in lengthening our season and I think the late ones are the most important as the early ones coincide a little bit with the late Germanicas and late Intermediates.

To come back to varieties for special mention, the following list of 100 good standard sorts can be recommended to gardeners generally. I have included in this some of the novelties which three or four years ago seemed of great promise but which I did not like to recommend widely until further test and available at reasonable prices. Therefore while they come into my list for the first time it does not mean that it is an immature opinion on them, as I am not recommending anything that I have not seen at least for five seasons and in many different places.

What can be said about novelties? Mostly that they are disappointing, not on account of lack of high quality but because most of them are but little different from what we already have. But the following varieties seem to be definite steps in advance and are recommended for enthusiasts who like to try new things.

Afterglow	Iris King	Opera
Alcazar	Isoline	Oporto
Ambassadeur	Jeanne d'Arc	
Archeveque	Juniata	Parc de Neuilly
Arnols	La Neige	Paxatawny
Aurea	Lent A. Williamson	Pauline
Autocrat	Lohengrin	Perfection
	Lord Grey	Petit Vitry
Ballerine	Lord of June	Pocahontas
Baronet	Loreley	Primier
B. Y. Morrison		Princess Beatrice
		Prosper Laugier
Caprice	Mady Carriere	
Celeste	Magnifica	Quaker Lady
Cluny	Ma Mie	Queen Caterina
Col. Candelot	Mandalay	Queen of May
Corrida	Mandaliscae	
Cordon Bleu	Mary Garden	Raffet
Cretonne	Mary Minanelle	Rhein Nixe
	Medrano	Roseway
	Minnehaha	
Dalila	Miranda	Sarpedon
Dawn	Mithras	Seminole
De Jazet	Mme. Chobaut	Shekinah
Delicatissima	Moliere	Sindjkhat
Dora Longdon	Monsignor	Sv. de Mme. Gaudichau
Dusky Maid	Montezuma	Steepway
	Mount Penn	Sweet Lavender
Eldorado	Mozart	Syphax
	Mrs. H. Darwin	
Fairy	Mrs. Fryer	Tamar
	Mrs. Neubronner	Tom Tit
Georgia	Mrs. Tinley	Tristram
Gertrude		
	Naushon	Troost
Halo	Navajo	White Knight
Harriet Presby	Nibelungen	Wm. Marshall
Her Majesty	Nine Wells	W. J. Fryer
Hiawatha	Nuee d'Orage	Wyomissing

Let us consider first the breeders around Washington. Mr. Shull's Morning Splendor is one of the redder Irises that has impressed many of us in 1923 and 1924. With him it is a good grower and of good height and size. Nimbus is as the name suggests, a deep steel grey entirely distinct from any Iris that I know. It is a color capable of giving wonderful effects if placed with just the right colors near it, but one which must be carefully used. Tropic Seas is a large Trojana type of Iris on the red side of purple exceedingly tall, large, strong and free blooming. Those who like the form of Isoline and Magnifica will want Sir Galahad and Julia Marlowe in their gardens. I personally do not like this floppy form and prefer his yet unnamed Trojana X L.A.W. hybrid, No. 6 to either of these. It is a rich Violet Lent A. Williamson.

Mr. Simpson's Arlington also is of Lent A. Williamson type but distinct from it in color, being lighter and redder, while his 4a is



bluer. Before long we shall have a whole Lent A. Williamson race I think. Mr. Simpson also has a number of fine yellows, mostly Minnehaha seedlings that look very promising.

Mr. Morrison's seedlings are older but not so well known. Many of them also are Lent A. Williamson or Alcazar types. Of these Dusk, Kestrel and Pierrot please me the most, particularly the last named on account of its deep reddish tone. But his smaller flowered types pleased me better. Fenella, a fine white, I would rate 8.5 or over. Anchorite, Petrel and Petruchio were others I noted while a Kashmir White seedling temporarily called Sophronia, impressed me as probably as good as Sir Arthur Hort's Bolingbroke. Chlorinda is a large flower of Minnehaha type, and Damozel is an unusually fine plicata.

An outstanding feature of the Washington show was a yellow seedling, Loudon of the Minnehaha-Dawn type raised by Mr. Fendall. Every one who saw it wanted it.

I have spoken before of Mr. Mohr's Soledad. Among late flowered varieties raised by him Marian Mohr stood out as a most beautiful self Pallida-Caterina type worthy of being rated 9 to 9.5 if it proves a good grower. It resembles Queen Caterina in a way but is smaller and not as pink. Conquistador is an early violet blue self, tall and promising in every way, but Prince Lohengrin disappointed me as being a deeper and less clear pink than Lohengrin. Mariposa also while tall did not impress me as much as last year. Ramona is a beautiful Iris as undescribable as Quaker Lady.

Balboa I heard greatly admired but while it is a nice flower it did not impress me as distinct enough. It is a violet purple and for those who worship detail it is worth growing for the blue tips of the style arms, a decidedly remarkable feature. Carmelo is a Korolkowi X Germanica hybrid remarkable for its color, a soft slate blue and the Korolkowi veining and form. It looks like a real acquisition.

At Harrisburg I saw for the first time Mrs. Cumbler's new seedling Mary Barnett. It fully deserves the H. M. it received last year for it is a deeper Princess Beatrice with more sheen and with a wonderful orange beard. As Princess Beatrice is one of my greatest favorites I was pleased to see this fine companion to it. At this same show an H. M. was given to a new seedling, Kipnonia, of Edouard Michel type but with much lighter standards. It was raised by Mrs. Hamilton. Mrs. Jacobs, well known as the originator of Rachel Fox, received an H. M. for a fine Sibirica seedling of Emperor type but violet blue.

In my own garden Mr. Koehler's Red Riding Hood, Prof. Seelinger and Elberon attracted much attention. They are all red Pallida types and among the best things in those colors. Undine did not impress me as favorably as these did for tho it is a fine flower it is not as distinct

Gamaliel, a seedling of Mr. Wettengel's interested me on account of its slate blue color. Grandeur (Dunphe) did not prove worthy of its name. It is full and free but very commonplace, of Pallida-Neglecta type, and many other varieties of its general coloring are well known. Osceola, a purple Her Majesty type, is also too commonplace. Pantheon also is disappointing.

I did not see Fryer's Magnificent which is so well spoken of in the west, but Mrs. Fryer, and W. J. Fryer again proved very fine and should be better known. His Rev. Wurtelle is entirely unique in coloring and received much favorable comment. C. P. Connell is a very blue self, much bluer than Albert Victor, and while there are many varieties of its general color I doubt if any of them are as blue.

M. G. Peters received much favorable mention. It is a large flower that attracts you in spite of its poor form. Gov. Hughes "remarkable



for its beard" again lived up to its title, but is commonplace otherwise. Margery McCord is an unusually rich red purple. Mr. Fryer's new seedlings are certainly much more distinct than his older ones which were so harshly criticized as almost identical with well known varieties.

I have criticized some of the Bobbink & Atkins varieties as not distinct so am glad to be able to say a good word for Wawayanda, a variegata with pale yellow standards and light brownish falls, of very pleasing color and form.

I liked the Sass seedlings, Lona and Jubilee, but did not care for Midwest. In general they are all plicatas with heavy pink or reddish pink veinings.

Mrs. Cleveland's Autocrat gave me many fine flowers and is one of the best things of its type. Pink Pearl is a fine white with faint pink markings. May Rose is a good pink but perhaps not as good as Georgia. Taffeta is too close to Quaker Lady to be important and Carmencita did not impress me at all and I did not like Moonstone as much as I did last year.

Mrs. McKinney's My Lady and Simplicity are charming flowers and should win permanent places among white varieties. Whim is a small flower of Mary Garden type which, while it makes a splendid mass, may not be of great importance, but May Morn is I believe entirely distinct, a lovely pale yellow overlaid and flecked with pale pink. Muscadine is a rich purple of Archeveque type.

Miss Sturtevant's many novelties are hard to classify. Last year I was particularly pleased with Inner Glow, Gold Imperial and Glowing Embers and they pleased me just as much this season. Chalice is a little lighter than Gold Imperial and probably too close but it would be hard to have to choose between them. Rajput is a fine large flowered type of fine form. Cameo is a lovely little Iris with light yellow standards and yellow falls overlaid with blue. Avalon I continue to dislike in spite of all the praise showered upon it.

The Farr novelties, Mildred Presby and Mary Orth, look ready to take their places along side of Seminole, Quaker Lady, Mt. Penn and Juniata, which is the highest praise I can give any Iris. I don't care for the form of Japanesque or the coloring of Catalosa.

Mrs. Paul B. Riis is a pink bicolor - I know nothing like it but it is not a color that pleases me particularly. It belongs to the dwarf class as does another pink Mrs. Lodge. Mr. Weed's Greater May Queen did not in its first bloom show superiority to Queen of May, but I presume it will in size at least. It seems a little darker. Rujago is a good red.

Of European novelties the Bliss Dominion race interested me most because I had spikes of Bruno and Duke of Bedford and they were very fine. Unfortunately they live up to the reputation of that race as poor growers and Swazi is worse still. Titan gave a large flower but on a short stem and still seems more of a breeder's variety than a garden sort. The same is true of Citronella which is tall and has the most glorious clear yellow standards, but miserably common place blotchy brown falls. Yeoman is of Dominion race but has pale bluish standards, the bluest of this race. Canopus is a blue grey Alcazar and does not impress me particularly. Princess Toto is an exceedingly good Plicata but after all much like other exceedingly good Plicatas of which there are many. Du Guesclin is of Perfection-Autocrat type and not impressive. Susan Bliss seemed the best of the pink varieties, a brighter pink than Georgia or May Rose. Pioneer is a redder Duke of Bedford, a gorgeous flower. Close to this Dominion type also is Patrician, a blu-

er flower and more bicolor. All these varieties will become important if (and it is a very big if) they prove to be good growers which they have not yet done. Sudan is a good Variegata-Squalens between Iris King and Nibelungen.

Perry's varieties have on the other hand already proven themselves good growers. Marion Cran, the most famous of these in England, is our tallest pink. It is a good clear color, considerably lighter than Susan Bliss or Georgia. Duke of York is a tall pale Pallida with a little pink in it like Queen Caterina. It is tall and free but the flowers are crowded closely together at top of stem which may prove a bad fault. Lady Charles Allom, another strong grower, is a large full Pallida Cengialti type, making a wonderful mass on account of its freedom of bloom and good carriage. Robert Wallace is a wonderful purple almost of Archeveque coloring and much taller. Eden Phillpotts is a blue self like Lady Charles Allom and Titus is a tall red pallida more purple than Caprice. Wm. Marshall was not as tall as I saw it in Europe.

Last year I placed Mr. Yeld's Prospero at the top of my list of novelties and I still think it belongs right there. It is of the Lent A. Williamson type, tall, of magnificent form, and a little brighter in color owing to golden marks on the haft. Asia is of softer coloring and a late bloomer and also very fine.

Sir Arthur Hort's varieties seem slow to become established and I fear that many of them are too finicky for ordinary culture. I saw Ann Page, Hermione and one or two others at Mr. Donahue's garden, and they were very fine. In my own collection Leonato and Fenton were the only ones to bloom and neither seemed as fine as in England.

A number of Millet varieties which are not strictly speaking novelties, bloomed for me for the first time. Best of them is Oliver Perthis, a flower very closely approaching Duke of Bedford in color but brighter, due to more prominent beard, and apparently a better grower. Pont-a-Mousson is a Lent A. Williamson type with more grey and yellow in the color. It also is a fine grower. Mme. Chabal is a curious flower with falls like Troost but with paler pink standards.

Cayeaux's Peau Rouge lived up to its name as the reddest of all Iris that is from the Prosper Laugier end of the spectrum rather than from the Edouard Michel end. It is not tall but is very free blooming. Another beauty from this firm is Jean Chevreau, a Mary Garden-Dawn type very lovely and free blooming and valuable in the garden for its brightness. Imperator is an Edouard Michel type but deeper and more purple.

M. Denis' seedlings did not seem particularly exciting. Boyer is a rich reddish color but small. Valery Mayet is of Jacquesiana color but with much lighter standards. Maxime Cornu is large and ordinary except for the wonderfully bright golden yellow style arms which light up the interior of the flower. Mme. Durrand is a perfect beauty with standards of old gold and falls containing blue purple on old gold.

The famous G. & K. novelties were disappointing. Eckesachs is a fine large flower of Hiawatha type but not tall. Schwanhild is a improvement on Trautlieb, seemed little different but is probably taller and stronger. Rheindraube is a taller bluer Perfection of clear coloring; Ilisan a deep squalens brown and not particularly impressive, and Flamenschwert has yet to prove it is better than Mithras, Iris King, Marsh Marigold and others of that color.

I saw few Vilmorin novelties this year. Of Trianon and Turco I can only say what I have said before that they are nice flowers but not exciting. Zouave is a lovely pink Mary Garden type and well worthy of a place in any collection.

Step by step these new varieties are taking us to a wholly new race of Irises, taller and larger than anything we already have, and covering a wider range of color and form. Mr. Morrison pointed out in the Washington meeting that many of the varieties in our gardens today are nearly 100 years old, but that our present period was one of transition and many of the novelties would do well to last ten years. This is a discouraging situation for the gardener who does not want to buy a variety today to see it superceded tomorrow. But with our growing knowledge of Iris varieties through the great collections in our Test Gardens, I believe the Iris Society will soon be able to so classify varieties that a new variety can easily be placed in its proper niche, thus telling us instantly what kind of a flower it is and what varieties it will have to surpass if it is to survive. It is only such a classification that can bring order out of our present chaos. With its help we shall be able to show at a glance the entire range of color, height, size, form and season of bloom. Then a new variety will have to show wherein it differs or excels existing varieties in the same niche, and whether it is really needed for the gardener, or whether it is only of importance to the exhibitor or the breeder. I feel strongly that the work of the American Iris Society has been leading up to this since 1920, through our Check Lists, Standardized descriptions, Exhibitions and Test Gardens, and I call upon our members for their suggestions and help in making such a classification as simple, workable and comprehensive as it is possible to make it.

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## Hunting for Rare-bits

Ethel Anson S. Peckham

We started off early one cloudy morning in late August for a motor trip with *Iris setosa* as our objective. The map of New England being shaped rather like a fat lamb-cutlet, we decided that the shortest route north would be directly up the bone, so we went through the foot-hills of the White Mountains and spent the first night in New Hampshire. We "passed at our own risk" across to and up Maine, all good motor roads were "under construction", all bad ones under destruction and all others in a state of flux. In fact they were making, marring, and mending during the height of the tourist season each road we tried and dodging holes, rocks, slippery sand and pools made it difficult to watch for irises but in a swamp near Auburn, Maine, we saw seed-pods of *Iris versicolor*. We stopped, donned rubber boots, negotiated a barbed wire fence and went into the water after a clump. Each careful of motorists that passed took a wild delight in calling out "Lady, you'll get your feet wet", or "What price for water-cress"? I wonder. Could they possibly see that stream flowing around and about us? One puts up with a good deal in the interests of the A. I. S. That plant sat in a nest of newspapers keeping the carpet of our car damp the rest of the trip.

Above Augusta there were good roads passing through a lovely wooded, rolling country dotted with lakes and crossed by rapid rivers and we finally reached Bar Harbor safely. Going as soon as possible to see Mr. Dorr, the charming and witty Superintendent of the Lafayette National Park, we were taken to see the new road being built along the side of the mountain. From this one looks out upon one of the most wonderful views in the world. Lakes, inlets, bays, rivers, mountains and forests lie before you and better still it is a sunset view.

Mr. Dorr very kindly arranged that we should go the next morning out to Baker Island in the government launch and he appeared at the



hotel telling us with but short notice that we should need lunch. We rushed into a restaurant and bought some doughnuts and oranges while Mr. Dorr disappeared into another lunch room and emerged carrying a large apple pie just out of the oven, two forks and a knife. "The two ladies to share one fork, the two rangers the other and the knife to cut the pie with."

We had a splendid passage to Baker Island past the beautiful rocky, well-wooded coast as far as Seal Harbor before turning out toward the sea where the island sits lonely with its lighthouse and few tiny cottages. It is formed of a mass of pinkish-yellow rock which I assume to be granite and is covered with a low growth of cranberries, blueberries, etc., and one group of very stunted spruce trees. The beach, where there is any, is of broken shells and granite gravel or rubble with a rim of stones or boulders at high water mark. The ground behind these boulders drops away and becomes swampy and here grows *Iris versicolor* very rankly and with so great a variation of seed-pods that one wonders if there could not be hybrids with *Iris setosa*.

On the northwest side of the island, near the beach and again on the southwest between the spruces and the stony rim we noticed clumps of *Rosa rugosa* both the magenta and a handsome white while there were many curious beach plants that I was not botanist enough to recognize. Everywhere were sea-urchin and periwinkle shells thrown upon the cranberries by birds or storms.

After searching vainly the northwest and western shores we suddenly found our first plant of *Iris setosa* on the southwestern shore. Excitement reigned! Much scepticism from the youngest member of the party resulted in some botanical demonstrations as to specific differences from the sturdy *I. versicolor* and when convinced we photographed her with the plant as a sort of heaping coals of fire ceremony. Further on a fine colony furnished plants and seeds. It is worth noting that this species is confined to a zone five feet in width just at the edge of the beach among the rocks and not a plant grows behind where the conditions become swampy and where *I. versicolor* has sole possession. Another interesting thing was the finding of many plants still retaining the seed-pods of last year all gray and hoary with age and exposure and deep down in them seeds weathered to a dark mahogany whereas the new seed is deep cream in color tinged at the pointed end with raw sienna. The seeds are small, rounded at one end, pointed at the other and with a shiny coat. They are borne in rather blunted capsules which are deeply grooved down the center of each compartment. These grooves are most pronounced when the pods are green and flatten out considerably on maturity. In *I. versicolor* and *I. pseudacorus* the capsules are ridged not grooved as in *I. setosa* or *I. hookeri* (Penny) as I am now convinced it should be called as it is certainly distinct from the Alaskan form of *setosa*. There are evidently never more than two flowers to the stalk in the Baker Island form and often only one. Each flower stalk carries three small leaves which dry and disappear on year-old stalks. The leaves are narrow and pointed and tinged with purple where they join the rather straight rhizome. Apparently the leaves are much shorter than the flower stalk at flowering time but often slightly overtop the stalks later. Scattered rhizomes do not seem to bloom while crowded plants appear to be very floriferous. The description of leaves and growth given by R. Irwin Lynch in his "Book of the Iris" is very different from that of the Baker Island plants but it should be realized that they grow on the side most exposed to winter storms and salt spray. They may even at times get washed over by the waves as I found bits of driftwood on and about the clumps.



After eating our lunch and the delicious pie (with the proper distribution of forks) we begged a drink of water from a fisherman, the rangers picked a bag full of cranberries for their women folk and we made a quick and smooth package back to the main land and left for Boothbay Harbor to stay with Mrs. Hitchcock. It was nice to share our triumph with such an understanding member of the Society.

We got our plants safely back to the New York Botanical Garden and now we shall try to grow them, some in the rock-garden, some in the propagating house and we shall sow some of the seed and distribute the rest to deserving botanists and members of the A. I. S. I should like to visit Baker Island when *I. setosa* is in bloom and one expedition often does lead to another in this kind of thing.

## 1924 Observations

Frank W. Campbell

Seedlings are being produced at all iris centers now and on a recent trip I noticed a tendency to boost anything that looked colorful without considering size, substance, height, or fragrance. My personal preference is for solid colors, horizontal spreading falls not veined and large flowers of good substance carried on tall stems, the color not faded at the edges or ends of the segments. But of the seedlings I saw this year Mr. Wareham's at Cincinnati simply astounded me by their great merit.

Mrs. Emigholz had three outstanding large ones of good solid color, Mrs. Carter of Lexington, Ky., a much improved Phyllis Bliss while Mr. Buechley has a duplicate of Queen of May but of such exceptionally thick substance that it should prove of use in hybridizing, Mr. Syfert an improved *Flammenschwert* and Prof. Hottes some rather small things of fine color.

Duplicates of *Lent A. Williamson*, *Prospero*, *Gaudichau*, *Duke of Bedford*, *Sweet Lavender* and myriads of good violet bicolors were seen but were not distinct enough to be considered despite their quality.

Rot, iris borer, and winterkilling seem very prevalent in the central states and of nineteen gardens visited all but two were poorly drained and rather shady with poor air circulation, all three conditions conducive to disease.

The iris borer undoubtedly has a spring hatch as greenhouse propagated plants that were not in existence during the fall laying period have been attacked before the following June. My country garden is very windy and no borers are ever found there probably because the moth that lays the eggs prefers quieter places.

Many people do not exhibit in out-of-town iris shows thinking the stalks do not carry well. Other years and twice this year I cut unopened flowers with the bud about to expand, carried them for twenty-four hours without water or damp moss and had them open perfectly when put in water the morning of the show.

If you live within reach, get your stalks to the show the night before and let them open during the night. See how fresh and spotless they appear when compared to those hustled in just before judging. Cracked and folded segments, flopped flowers, crooked stems, all detract greatly from the appearance of the exhibit. Some gravel in the vases helps to hold the stems in position.

There is a tendency to display the flowers on too high a table, an eighteen inch high support seems the best.

Flowers with an extra or missing segment, duplicates in a collection of single stalks, decidedly misnamed varieties or unnamed stalks were frequent at the shows this year. All these points are considered by the judges and should be even more considered by the exhibitors.

# Forcing the Bearded Irises

Frank W. Campbell

For three years I had nominal success in forcing irises into bloom in a greenhouse but this year I had a real rather than a nominal success.

Pumila and Intermediate iris clumps with plenty of earth can be lifted and potted about Jan. 15, and brought into bloom a month later at a temperature of 65 degrees.

Tall Bearded varieties potted in June in 8-inch pots and carefully watered so as to keep the soil in about the condition it would be in the open ground, can be brought indoors after freezing a couple of times. They are kept at a temperature of 50 degrees until January and then sent to 65 degrees. About March 1st almost normal blooms will be developed.

For two years I lifted the plants in September, put them in large pots or in a solid raised bed but there was little bloom under either cool or warm-house treatment. The third year I lifted them in December but got very little bloom.

The fourth year I lifted them in early December after the first good freeze, broke the more easily detached offsets away as they were not of blooming size, kept the plants cool until January 1, warmed them for a couple of weeks and started them into growth. About January 20 the greenhouse accidentally got frozen to 18 degrees. Within a week the bloom spikes came up and by February 15 all bloomed finely in about the same sequence as in the garden.

The two points I must emphasize are first to break away the easily loosened, non-flowering side-shoots and second to allow them to freeze a second time in January before they begin too thrifty growth.

This year Magnificent (Fryer), from a rhizome 1 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, produced a thirty inch stalk with three flowers open at once. I could not see why it should have bloomed at all as there were only two new roots each about four inches long.

Susan Bliss, Marian Cran, Mrs. Fred Stern, Ruby, Ann Page, Jacqueline Guillot, Mrs. Hetty Matson, Princess Osra, E. H. Jenkins, Sweet Lavender, Vanessa, Ursula, were some of the ones that bloomed in January, 1924. No Dominion seedling nor any yellow proved amenable to forcing.

For several years I have tried to distinguish origins by greenhouse experiments. Some do best with bottom heat, some better with top heat. Yellows never even grow well, let alone bloom. Four to twelve inches of good soil were tried and the shallow soil gave the best results. In all cases an inch of sand was spread over the rhizomes to help hold them in place and very little water was given, at the start only every three weeks. No rot occurred.

Commercial propagation of iris roots has been tried for four years but it does not pay if cost of fuel and labor is considered but roots arriving from Europe in autumn are apt to die out of doors as the fumigation at Washington weakens them considerably, and they may be saved by greenhouse treatment.

Experiments in inoculating roots with iris rot are interesting. On nine plants three were scratched with a needle point covered with rot and were infected. Three were sprayed with lime water and inoculated successfully. Three more were sprayed with dilute vinegar and the rot did not "take". This was to test the theory that lime on the plants was harmful despite its beneficial action in the soil. Rot clearly dislikes an acid condition so don't broadcast lime on the iris leaves.

Again a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of sulphur under and over the rhizome had no effect on growth though I generally cut out rot and dust the cut surface with sulphur.

As might be expected plants in pots do poorly as compared to ones of the same variety in a solid bed.

## A Handbook of Garden Irises

by

W. R. Dykes, M.A. L-es.L.

Reviewed by John C. Wister

It is a great treat for a lover of Iris to have the chance to review a new book by Mr. Dykes, for, although the Iris has grown tremendously in popularity in the last few years, we have had no adequate book covering this Genus as a whole from the garden point of view. The botanical works of Baker and Lynch, both valuable in their day, are long out of date, and the standard monograph "The Genus Iris" by Dykes is unobtainable for many on account of its high price, and is besides written entirely from a botanical point of view. Mr. Dykes' smaller book has long been out of print, while Mr. Stager's recent book, excellent as far as it goes, covers only the Tall Bearded Iris.

Mr. Dykes' new book covers the whole Genus from a garden point of view, and while it is popular rather than scientific it gives good botanical descriptions of all the species dividing them into their natural groups and telling briefly their history. His plea for a greater appreciation for the Genus as a whole criticizes the present over-emphasis on Pogoniris. It is especially timely in this country where many of the species are almost unknown, but where, thanks to the American Iris Society, the attention of gardeners has recently been drawn to the many Beardless species which will grow well in our climate. His remarks on the various species, however, make us very envious of a man who is living in a free country and who is able to get these new things without the difficulties which surround importers here.

The book, which contains about two hundred and fifty pages, explains first the structural parts of the Iris flower which have become quite well known to our members through our Bulletins, and then gives an account of the various sections of the genus, their main characteristics and geographical distributions. Twelve chapters are then devoted to the various sections giving botanical descriptions and garden notes on each species, accompanied by splendid line drawings to illustrate, not only the characteristics of the flower, but of the roots and growth. Under the various sections are given the results of hybridization between the sections, a matter of which we have heard but little in this country.

Chapter 15 deals with the Pogoniris section and will be of the greatest interest to all of our members. The many puzzles in the history of some of our garden sorts are taken up, and answers to many questions constantly brought up by gardeners will be found here. For instance Mr. Dykes states that Iris Germanica has not yet been found wild anywhere and that it is still impossible to tell from what species it may have arisen from hybridization. He mentions finding Kochi wild near Lake Como, and tells of a place in the Velebit Mountains in Croatia where small forms of Pallida and Variegata grow side by side and many hybrids between them are found. He mentions also another place in southern Tyrol where the same thing occurs. His former notes on Iris Albicans are supplemented by telling that it has even traveled as far



as Mexico, being carried there from Spain. He mentions this as the greatest traveler of all Irises.

His notes on the cultivation of Iris are, of course, adapted to the English climate, but in the main they hold true also for us. I was surprised to find him advising replanting every third year, and in the Dwarf Bearded section every second year. There seems to be a great difference of opinion in this country, and in some gardens that I have seen plants will remain in good condition much longer than that. He believes in transplanting generally as a flower is fading rather than in July, when it seems probable that the embryo flower buds for the succeeding year are being formed, and advises that if transplanting cannot be done as the flower is fading, it would be wisest to postpone it until the end of August. He lists many species under the Pogoniris section which are not known at all in this country and about which we shall hope to know more in the future.

A long and valuable chapter is devoted to Garden Bearded Iris, and while he remarks that "what is best today is often surpassed tomorrow and it is rare to find two people who will entirely agree as to what is best", there can be no doubt of the value of recording here in permanent book form some of the best varieties of the present day. His statement "American growers seem inclined to lay too much stress on height of stem and size of flower, and to forget that some small varieties are wanted for the front of our borders" is a criticism that seems to me entirely justified and I wish he had emphasized it still more strongly. It is only recently that gardeners in this country have begun to appreciate the forms of late Bearded Iris that are not over a foot or eighteen inches in height. Mrs. McKinney's article in one of our recent Bulletins has done much to draw attention to this fact. Mr. Dykes also waxes rather sarcastic on the subject of indiscriminate seedling raising, stating that an alternative for collecting named varieties is to grow seedlings and "all his geese will then be swans". I am afraid that this statement is as true of American gardeners as of European ones, and we have formed a Society so that people might not put hundreds of worthless things upon the markets.

Some of the varieties mentioned in this chapter are of great interest. Among the Dwarf Bearded sorts he mentions Formosa, Cyanea, Florida, Orange Queen and Marocain, and of the taller forms Blue Boy which has just become known here, and two new comers, Pyramus and Thisbe.

In speaking of Intermediates he mentions the present confusion of this section and that some growers are now including Germanica types in it, and his remarks here again draw attention to the fact that we need a reclassification in this section. It is not more than a week since one of our members suggested to me that eventually we would have to call them early dwarf, early medium and early tall Iris, and late dwarf, late medium and late tall Iris. He mentions here also Yel-low Hammer which has just bloomed for me and seems a decided improvement on Helge in color; and three new crosses between Pallida and Alberti:—Charmian, Cymbeline and Octavia.

Following this comes a long list of about seventy Tall Bearded varieties which he considers of value, and at the top of the list he states that "These are my personal selection. I do not flatter myself that they will be accepted without criticism". It is, of course, always much easier to criticize somebody else's list than to make one of your own, but I think there are a few things included in this list that American growers would deem unworthy. One that met my eye was Gracchus, which I have long since discarded as inferior to Gajus. I noted with



interest that he has gone back to the old spelling *Jacquini*ana and wondered whether he has found new evidence to support this spelling, for we thought that *Krelage* had proved it should be spelled *Jacquesi*-ana. I was glad to see *Maori King* included in the list in spite of its dwarfness, and note that he gives the date 1873 for *Mrs. Horace Darwin*, making this variety still older than we had supposed. Among American varieties he mentions *Afterglow*, *B. Y. Morrison*, *Queen Caterina*, *Shekinah*, *Quaker Lady*, *Seminole* and *Lent A. Williamson*; and after *Virginia Moore* is a remark, which will surprise most of us, that he considers it better than *Shekinah*.

Following this list are several pages devoted to the work of recent breeders beginning with *Foster* and *Yeld*. He pays high tribute to the *Dominion* race, but those of us who have failed with it here will be interested to note that he says, "it remains to be seen whether they will flower freely under ordinary garden conditions". The same doubt is expressed about some of *Sir Arthur Hort's* fine new kinds with the suggestion that perhaps they need an extra heavy soil. His own contributions to *Iris* breeding are very modestly dealt with and we could wish for a much more extended review of them, particularly of the *Alberti* hybrids. The note on *Mr. Perry's* new varieties is also short, although very appreciative.

In speaking of the French growers he mentions that many of the *Ricardi* require strong soil and a hot climate to keep them healthy, and from what he says they ought to do better here than in England, but that has not been my experience. The work of the *Vilmorin's*, *Millet* and *Cayeux* is also spoken of in high terms; and in this country he mentions *Farr*, *Miss Sturtevant* and *Mr. Williamson*, and while he expresses appreciation of their work it is quite evident that most of our American novelties have not yet become as well known to the British public, as we believe they will within a few years.

The final chapter speaks of raising seedlings, and then follows, what for us is the greatest disappointment in the book, his very short treatment of *Iris* diseases. I presume that this again is due to the difference between our climate and the English climate, the fact that they have less troubles in growing their *Iris* than we do. The old English advice of scattering an ounce or two of superphosphate of lime to the square yard to check *Iris* rot reminds us again that we do not know exactly which chemical the English know by this name, but it seems quite likely one of the forms of acid phosphate which are used so much in this country as fertilizers. Potassium permanganate is used for washing roots. I have had no personal experience with it but our members seem to think that bichlorid of mercury is better. *Leaf Spot* is mentioned as a disease, but this fortunately does not seem to be troublesome here. The lack of mention of *Iris Borer* would seem to indicate that the British are much more fortunate in this regard than we are. At the end of the book is an alphabetical list of species giving height, time of bloom and best date for planting, and an excellent index is included.

To the many growers of *Iris* in this country who know only the *Bearded Iris* this book will come as a revelation, and to those who already have an interest in various *Iris* species it will be constantly useful for study and reference. I can unhesitatingly recommend it to all. It is a valuable addition to the garden literature not only for *Iris* specialists but for general gardeners.

## Descriptions of Varieties, Part IV

With each addition to our list of descriptions I find myself finding new points worthy of note, and I now give our first step towards the classification of garden irises. The various parts of the description are given very much in the order of their importance and so you will find the **Type** one of the first headings. A classification is necessarily divided into heads and sub-heads, but to designate each small class by the name of a presumably common variety carries a mental comparison to the iris specialist, at least, which no arrangement of Class numbers and letters could possibly do. Often of course there is no very comparable variety, things will vary in height, or size or habit and perhaps carry to your mind an entirely different impression than we have given but it seems a step in the right direction at least.

Symposium ratings are non-existent for many of the varieties described and I must refer you to Bulletin 6 for a full explanation of methods and terms used.

I trust that all members will report errors, or omissions, particularly as regards points of distinction and vigor of growth. Novelties have not been grown in enough sections of the country to permit us to make more than a general record. It is well-known that Variegatas do not thrive in California, but I have no individual records of the many varieties which are partly, at least, of variegata origin. Such information is necessarily a matter of compilation from many reports and is becoming increasingly important for new "Irisarians" as Mr. Burchfield calls us.

### ANGELO

Bicolor, VR-V (m) Type Lord of June. Hort, Wal. 1920  
**Brief.** Large; S. light hyssop; violet, floppy; F. manganese violet; haft and edge of styles slightly pink lavender; stalk branched below center; growth vigorous; 30 in.  
**Details.** F. drooping to straight-hanging; haft faintly reticulated hazel; beard yellow.  
**Remarks.** Color and form similar to that of Amas.

### ANNE BULLEN

Bicolor, VR-V (m) Type Trojana. Hort, Wal. 1922  
**Brief.** S. large; lavender violet but effect more blue; F. anthracene violet, haft conspicuous, richly reticulated russet; beard conspicuously tipped orange; stalk branched below center; growth vigorous. 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping.  
**Remarks.** The rich haft is the sole distinction.

### ANTONIO

Bicolor, VR-V (m) Type Trojana. Hort, Wal. 1921  
**Brief.** S. light lavender violet; F. anthracene violet with redder lights; haft amber at edge; stalk branched below center; growth moderate; to 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. erect; F. drooping; beard projecting, conspicuous, orange tipped.  
**Remarks.** Similar to Anne Bullen except for the haft.

### APHRODITE

Self R-RV (m) Type Lohengrin. Dykes, White, 1922  
**Brief.** Mathews purple with whitish edge to styles; stalk slender, widely branched; growth vigorous; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched to overlapping; F. drooping to incurved; haft conspicuous, slightly olive tinted with bluish reticulations; flower very fragrant.

**Remarks.** Almost the color of a newly opened Georgia, taller and more widely branched.

### ARGENTINA

Self, White. Type Kashmir White.

Mohr, Camp. 1924

**Brief.** Large, pure white with old gold haft heavily veined with olive; stalk branched below center; growth moderate; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; claw reticulated yellow to russet; F. straight-hanging; beard conspicuous, orange.

**Remarks.** Probably of mesopotamica blood and fairly tender but it has thrived in Mass.

### ARGONAUT

Self, VR-V (l) Type Celeste.

Bliss, 1920 Sturt. 1924

**Brief.** Pale to light lavender violet; stalk well and widely branched; growth vigorous; 30 in.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring to drooping; beard projecting, orange tip.

**Remarks.** Crisp clear color, most effective but not out-standing.

### ARISTOCRAT

Bicolor, VR-V (m) Type Hiawatha.

Clev. 1920

**Brief.** S. lavender violet; F. dark anthracene violet with lighter edge; stalk short but well-branched; to 30 in.

**Details.** S. erect; slightly revolute; F. flaring; haft conspicuous; beard pale yellow; foliage tinged at base.

**Remarks.** Paler than Hiawatha but equally effective.

### ARLINGTON

Bicolor, R-RV (m) Type Merlin.

Simpson, 1923

**Brief.** Large; S. ageratum violet; F. dull dusky purple but brighter in effect; stalk well-branched, free flowering; growth vigorous; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched, flushed amber at base; F. flaring to drooping; haft conspicuous, buff with heavy morocco red reticulations; beard yellow.

**Remarks.** A red-toned Amas with buff reflections at center.

### AUSTIN

Bicolor, R-RV (m) Type Neglecta.

Denis, 1923

**Brief.** S. light perilla purple; F. petunia violet; stalk poorly branched; growth vigorous; 1 ft.

**Details.** Haft and styles edged amber; beard yellow, orange tip.

**Remarks.** Though the above agrees with the published description it seems unbelievable that so low a variety was introduced. Description from an established plant.

### BRANDYWINE

Self, V (p) Type Celeste.

Farr, 1920

**Brief.** Light hyssop violet, haft indistinctly reticulated gray to olive; beard conspicuous, red-orange; stalk low branched; growth vigorous; 30 in.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. drooping; suggestion of venation on falls; foliage markedly short.

**Remarks.** Described in two gardens; not as good as Argonaut.

## BRUNO

(Dominion Race)

- Bicolor, R-RV (d) Type Ambassadeur. Bliss, Wal. 1922  
**Brief.** Large; S. lustrous light vinaceous purple flushed reed yellow at base; F. velvety dark nigrosin violet with similar flush; stalk branched below center; growth vigorous; 40 in.  
**Details.** S. arched; F. drooping to straight-hanging; haft heavily reticulated; beard yellow, orange.  
**Remarks.** At this date Bruno is more flushed with yellow than others of the Dominion Race.

## CAPORAL

- Self, R-RV (d) Type Rose Unique. Bliss, 1919, White, 1920  
**Brief.** Chinese Violet to magenta with conspicuous pale amber haft; stalk well-branched; growth vigorous; to 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. arched; F. straight-hanging; beard whitish, brown-specked.  
**Remarks.** A red-toned variety for massing.

## CAMEO

- Self, Blend (e) Type Cherubin. Sturt. 1924  
**Brief.** Cream, the falls flushed pale laelia pink, the haft and styles orange buff; pallida habit; to 30 in.  
**Details.** S. domed; F. drooping; beard conspicuous, orange.  
**Remarks.** A pink-toned Afterglow but not as vigorous.

## CATALOSA

- Bicolor, OY-Y & R-V (m) Type Mme. Blanche Pion. Farr, 1920  
**Brief.** S. cinnamon drab with lavender reflections; F. velvety madder violet at tip, the white haft widely veined; variegata habit; 30 in.  
**Details.** S. domed; F. drooping; beard yellow-orange; foliage tinged at base.

## CAVALIER

- Bicolor, VR-V (m) Type Othello. Clev. 1920  
**Brief.** S. lavender violet; F. velvety anthracene violet; pallida-variegata habit; 30 in.  
**Details.** Beard yellow, orange tipped, brown-specked.  
**Remarks.** More solid color than Autocrat; bluer than Mrs. W. E. Fryer.

## CHALICE

- Self, Y (d) Type Mrs. Neubronner. Sturt. 1924  
**Brief.** Lemon yellow to lemon chrome thruout; pallida habit; 30 in.  
**Details.** S. conic; F. flaring to drooping; foliage yellow-green.  
**Remarks.** Close to Gold Imperial but beard is yellow.

## CHATELET

- Self, R-RV (p) Type Lohengrin. Vilm, 1923  
**Brief.** Lilac to Chinese violet with lighter center; variegata haft; to 30 in.  
**Details.** S. erect; F. drooping; haft faintly tinted buff at edge; beard conspicuous, white, orange and brown specked.  
**Remarks.** Queen of May but with hardly a trace of yellow.

## CHERUBIN

- Self, blend (1) Type. Vilm, 1911  
**Brief.** palest hortense violet flushed pale colonial buff, the falls sparsely veined with raisin purple; pallida habit; 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. arched; F. drooping to incurved; beard yellow; foliage tinged at base.  
**Remarks.** A pale Her Majesty flushed with buff; close to Wyomissing.



## COMMODORE

Bicolor, V (m) Type Albert Victor.

Bliss, White, 1921

**Brief.** Pale to light violet; pallida habit; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. conic, ruffled; F. drooping; flower fragrant.

**Remarks.** Attractive but not out-standing.

## CONQUISTADOR

Bicolor, R-V (m) Type Lord of June.

Mohr, Camp, 1923

**Brief.** Large; lavender violet to almost madder violet, haft with dull reticulations olive to reddish brown; stalk well-branched; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. erect; F. drooping but far reaching; beard conspicuous, white, orange tipt.

**Remarks.** Probably not of satisfactory growth in the north; form distinctive.

## DAPHNE

Bicolor, W & VR-V Type Rhein Nixe.

Bliss, Wal. 1920

**Brief.** S. white; F. veined and bordered anthracene violet, a blue tone; variegata habit; 30 in.

**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping; half tinted buff at edge; beard conspicuous, white, pale yellow tipt.

**Remarks.** An amoena, not velvety; excellent branching.

## DANIEL LESEUR

Bicolor, R-V blend (m) Type Dalmarius.

Denis, Millet

**Brief.** S. light mauve flushed amber yellow at edge; F. veined on white, anthracene violet at center; very well and low branched; growth vigorous; to 2 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring; beard conspicuous, yellow; haft conspicuous, amber flushed.

## DIONYZA

Self, V (e) Type Caterina.

Hort, Wal. 1922

**Brief.** Light dull bluish violet to dauphins violet; haft conspicuous, yellow ochre at edge; Caterina habit; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. straight-hanging, beard conspicuous, orange tipt; styles lilac.

**Remarks.** Very close to Caterina but requires further study.

## DUKE OF YORK

Self, VB-V (e) Type Caterina.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Large, bluish lavender, the center flushed chamois; stalk well-branched, growth vigorous; 4 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. drooping to incurved; haft conspicuous, chamois widely reticulated Corinthian purple; beard conspicuous white, orange tipt.

**Remarks.** Color of Caterina but a more open flower and with a distinct pale yellow flush at the center.

## EDITH CAVELL

White, Type Kashmir White.

Denis, 1921

**Brief.** Large, white; S. arching; F. drooping; haft bright olive ochre at edge; stalk well-branched; growth variable; over 3 ft.

**Details.** Claw veined dull purplish at base; haft slightly flecked purple; beard conspicuous, greenish-orange tipt.

**Remarks.** A Ricardi hybrid of unsatisfactory growth in some northern gardens.

## EGLAMOUR

(mesopotamica x Purple King)

Bicolor, V (m) Type Trojana.

Hort, Wal. 1921

**Brief.** Large; S. Bradleys to lavender violet, domed; F. anthracene violet, smoothly drooping; germanica habit; 30 in.

**Details.** Beard projecting, white, orange tipped; styles light at edge, not pinkish.

**Remarks.** Similar to Antonio, very large flowered.

## ELAINE

(Tineae x Virginia Moore)

Self, R-RV (1) Type Mme. Cheri.

Shull, 1924

**Brief.** Purplish lilac to ageratum violet flushed Baryta yellow at center; stalk high branched; growth vigorous; 42 in.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. straight-hanging to incurved; haft finely reticulated bronze to citrine; beard yellow.

**Remarks.** Lighter and more yellow than Mme. Cheri, mass effect good, taller than Quaker Lady.

## ELINOR BLOSSOM

(Sindjkha x Trojana)

Bicolor, R-V (m) Type Magnifica.

Sturt, 1923

**Brief.** S. lilac; F. satiny pansy violet; stalk long branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** A ruffled flower, S. with tips adpressed; F. straight-hanging; haft amber edged; beard light yellow.

**Remarks.** Coloring of Gules but a full appearing flower.

## EMBER

Bicolor, R-RV (d) Type Opera.

Sturt, 1923

**Brief.** S. Mathews purple; F. blackish purple, flaring to drooping; haft conspicuous, amber edged; stalk well and widely branched; over 3 ft.

**Details.** Foliage tinged at base; beard dull orange.

**Remarks.** Of Mme. Cheri form and habit, dark in color. As Mme. Cheri has been much used in crossing similar introductions are to be expected.

## EMPRESS OF INDIA

Self, V (m) Type Albert Victor.

1921

**Brief.** Lavender to dauphins violet, fragrant; pallida habit; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. erect, frilled; F. drooping; haft reticulated at base only, a redder violet; styles with slight light pink-lavender edge.

**Remarks.** Varies in texture from the usual pallida.

## ESPLENIDO

Self, VR-V (d) Type Imperator.

Mohr, Camp. 1924

**Brief.** Light hortense to shaded amethyst violet; haft conspicuous, faintly flushed colonial buff; stalk low, well, and widely branched; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. erect; F. straight-hanging, beard conspicuous, white, orange tipped.

**Remarks.** One of the new reds that are difficult to classify.

## FEDORA

Bicolor, YO-O & V-R blend. Type Sarabande.

Cayeux, 1923

**Brief.** S. blended old gold; F. velvety dull dusky purple with 1-8 inch border of old gold; pallida-variegata habit; 30 in.

**Details.** Wire edge to S. & F.; haft conspicuous, white at center; styles olive ochre.

**Remarks.** The color contrast gives the falls a red-effect; a distinct variety.

### FERONIA

Bicolor, R-RV blend (m) Type Mme. Blanche Pion.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** S. purplish lilac; F. argyle to dark perilla purple, flower flushed amber at center; pallida-variegata habit; to 3 ft.

**Details.** Flower open; beard white, yellow tipped; spathes flushed.

**Remarks.** Described as a yearling and as such not out-standing.

### FLUTTER-BY

((Dalmatica x Prestige) x Sherbet)

Self, Y (e) Type Flavescens.

Sturt, 1924

**Brief.** Pinard yellow, the falls lighter; haft reticulated lemon chrome at base; beard conspicuous, orange; stalk well and widely branched; growth slender but rampant; 30 in.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring; free-flowering and fragrant.

**Remarks.** Of only fair size but clear in color and introduced for the garden effect of a clump.

### GABRIEL

Bicolor, V Type Baronet.

Bliss, 1921

**Brief.** Light wistaria violet flushed a velvety Bradleys violet below the beard; stalk well-branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. straight-hanging, pinched; haft not conspicuous.

**Remarks.** Described as a cut-flower; texture and possibly blue effect in mass the only points of value.

### GLAMOUR

(Dominion Race)

Bicolor, R-V blend (d) Type Ambassadeur.

Bliss, White, 1922

**Brief.** Exceptional substance; S. light lobelia violet shaded; vinaceous buff at edge; F. velvety blackish purple lighter at edge; intermediate branching; growth vigorous tho slow; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring, round; edge of styles and haft tinted buff; beard yellow-orange.

**Remarks.** Flower of Dominion form and quality.

### GOLD IMPERIAL

((Hector x Caterina) x S. H. White)

Self, Y (d) Type Mrs. Neubronner.

Sturt, 1924

**Brief.** Empire to lemon chrome yellow thruout; beard conspicuous, orange; stalk well-branched; growth rampant; to 3 ft.

**Details.** Foliage yellow-green; spathes flushed; S. arched; F. flaring.

**Remarks.** Not large but thrifty and clear colored. H.M.A.I.S. New York, 1922.

### HERMIA

Bicolor, R-V blend (m) Type Mme. Blanche Pion.

Yeld, 19-

**Brief.** S. Hays lilac flushed chamois; F. fading Chinese Violet; stalk high branched; growth moderate; 30 in.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring; beard orange, brown-specked; styles chamois; foliage sickle-shaped.

**Remarks.** Not outstanding.



## HERMIONE

Bicolor, V (e) Type Lord of June.

Hort, Wal. 1920

**Brief.** Large, lavender violet flushed hortense violet below beard, haft conspicuously edged yellow ochre to ochraceous tawny; stalk well and widely branched; growth vigorous; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. flaring; beard thick, conspicuous, yellow; foliage markedly short.

**Remarks.** Exceptional form and substance; color not distinctive.

## HERMOSA

Self, R-RV (m) Type Queen of May.

Dean, 1923

**Brief.** Mathews purple with conspicuous light haft and orange-tipt beard; stalk well branched; growth vigorous; 30 in.

**Details.** Free flowering; spathes scarious; haft reticulations widely spaced.

## HIPPOLYTA

Self, V (m) Type Albert Victor.

Hort, Wal. 1921

**Brief.** Lavender to Bradleys violet thruout; pallida habit; to 4 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping, very slightly reticulated russet vinaceous at base; beard yellow-orange tipt, not conspicuous.

**Remarks.** Exceptional smooth substance and uniform color.

## HUBERT

Self, V (m) Type Glory of Reading.

Hort, Wal. 1921

**Brief.** Bradleys to dauphins violet with vivid orange beard; pallida-variegata habit, 2 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped, revolute; F. drooping to incurved; styles buff at edge.

**Remarks.** Darker and more of a self than Paulina (Hort).

## IMPERATOR

Bicolor, R-RV (d) Type.

Cayeux, 1923

**Brief.** Mathews to raisin purple, haft white; styles striking, with amber edge; pallida-variegata habit; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. straight-hanging; beard orange, brown-specked; haft heavily reticulated.

**Remarks.** Comparable to Ember, Dianto, etc., deep magenta toned.

## JACQUELINE GUILLOT

Self, VR-V (e) Type Caterina.

Cayeux 1924?

**Brief.** Large, lavender violet; stalk well-branched; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. flaring; haft white with brown reticulations; styles light at edge.

**Remarks.** Similar to Hermione but lighter.

## J. B. DUMAS

(Ricardi)

Self, R-V (e) Type Mme. Cheri.

Denis, 1917

**Brief.** Large; mauve watered with Mathews purple, falls flushed at center hortense violet; stalk well and widely branched; growth variable; to 4 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. drooping; haft conspicuous, white at center, edge deep colonial buff; beard conspicuous, yellow, orange tipt; styles with ivory edge.

**Remarks.** Very distinctive in form and color but not reliable in growth in the north.

## JEAN CHEVREAU

Plicata, Y blend (e) Type Montezuma.

Cayeux, 1923

**Brief.** S. primrose yellow to olive buff sanded at center with mauve; F. cream, haft conspicuously edged Prussian red; variegata-plicata habit; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. conic; F. drooping; beard dense, yellow.

**Remarks.** Distinctive and of good quality thruout.

## KURDISTAN

(Kharput)

Self, R-V (d) Type Kharput.

Dykes, Wal. 1922

**Brief.** Early; pansy violet to velvety blackish purple; stalk little branched; growth weak to moderate; 15 in.

**Details.** S. erect; F. flaring; haft white; beard orange; pollen blue.

**Remarks.** Intermediate in bloom and dwarf growing.

## LADY CHARLES ALLOM

Self, V (m) Type Albert Victor.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Lavender to Bradleys violet, bicolor in effect; stalk long-branched; growth vigorous; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. drooping to straight-hanging; haft reticulations blurred and closely spaced; beard conspicuous, white.

**Remarks.** Of fine habit but in no way distinctive in color.

## LADY JELlicoe

Bicolor, RV-R blend. Type Mme. Blanche Pion.

Perry, 1914

**Brief.** S. palest mauvette fading to massicot yellow; F. dusky auricula purple with light border and wire edge; pallida-variegata habit; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. overlapping; F. drooping; haft conspicuous, white.

## L'AIGLON

((Iris King x Maori King) x Julia Marlowe)

Bicolor, V-R blend (d) Type Ambassadeur.

Shull, 1924

**Brief.** Large, S. livid purple, F. Schoenfield purple, flushed cinnamon drab at center; stalk well-branched; growth vigorous; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring to drooping, wire edged, with narrow Argyle purple border; beard yellow.

**Remarks.** Less yellow than Sequoiah. H.M.A.I.S. 1924.

## LEANDER

Self, R-V (m) Type Cluny.

Bliss, Wal. 1920

**Brief.** Mauve; beard conspicuous, white; pallida habit; 30 in.

**Details.** S. arching, F. drooping, heavily reticulated at haft; styles with light edge; foliage tinged at base.

**Remarks.** A rather unusual tone of dull mauve; suggests Phyllis Bliss.

## LEONATO

Self, VR-V (e) Type Lady Foster.

Hort, Wal. 1922

**Brief.** Large, lavender violet with light haft, distinctively reticulated apricot to gray and olive at edge; stalk well-branched; growth moderate; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. flaring to drooping; beard white, slightly tipped orange.

**Remarks.** Even larger and lighter than Lady Foster.

## LOUDOUN

Plicata, Y (e) Type Montezuma.

Fendall

**Brief.** S. clear amber yellow faintly flecked at base; F. amber flushed and madder violet on haft and mid-rib, center white; stalk widely branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. flaring to incurved; styles amber yellow; spathes flushed.

**Remarks.** H.M.A.I.S. 1924. Darker than Jean Chevreau.

## MAGNIFICENT

Bicolor R-V (d) Type Atlas.

Fryer, 1923

**Brief.** Large, Amparo purple to Roods violet; stalk short branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. drooping; haft white.

**Remarks.** Color of Cora but much larger.

## MARION CRAN

Self, R-RV (e) Type Lohengrin.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Mathews purple with light haft; stalk unusually well-branched; growth vigorous; 4 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping; beard projecting, white, orange tip.

**Remarks.** A tall Margaret Moor.

## MARIPOSA

Bicolor, W & V Type.

Mohr, Camp. 1923

**Brief.** S. gray white irregularly washed lavender violet; F. with a blotch and wire edge of Bradleys violet on a gray white ground stalk well and widely branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping to incurved; beard white, yellow tip; haft light, conspicuous.

**Remarks.** Distinct but not as effective as Rhein Nixe.

## MEDRANO

Bicolor, V-RR (d) Type Opera.

Vilm. 1920

**Brief.** S. rosolane purple; F. encrusted with rich dark maroon purple; stalk high but well-branched; growth vigorous; 30 in.

**Details.** S. overlapping; F. drooping to incurved; beard conspicuous, orange, brown-specked; center of flower tinted buff; crest heavily flecked.

**Remarks.** Type of Opera but less red in color.

## MENTOR

Bicolor, VR-V (m) Type Neglecta.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** S. light hortense violet; F. hyacinth violet; pallida habit; 3 ft.

**Details.** Haft conspicuous, light, heavily veined litho purple; beard conspicuous, orange.

**Remarks.** Reported to be a tall Archeveque and the above may prove not true.

## MILDRED PRESBY

Bicolor, Y & R-RV Type Dalila.

Farr, 1923

**Brief.** S. palest chalcidony yellow; F. velvety roods violet; variegata habit; 30 in.

**Details.** S. conic; F. straight-hanging; strong contrasting color.

**Remarks.** Exceptional substance.



### MISTRESS FORD

Bicolor, R-V Type Trojana.

Hort, Wal. 1921

**Brief.** S. lavender violet; F. bright dark nigrosin violet; stalk widely branched; 30 in.

**Details.** S. arching; F. flaring to straight-hanging; haft light, heavily reticulated; beard dense, white, yellow tipt; foliage slender and short.

**Remarks.** Slightly more red-toned than trojana.

### YVONNE PELLETIER

Self, V Type Celeste.

Millet, 1916

**Brief.** Verbena to light hyssop violet with conspicuous pale yellow beard; stalk slender and high but well-branched; growth vigorous; 40 in.

**Details.** S. erect; F. flaring, ruffled, haft with gray-olive reticulations; styles with pinkish edge.

**Remarks.** Comparable to Corrida and equally delightful and distinct.

### MME. DURRAND

Bicolor, Y & R-RV blend (m) Type.

Denis, 1912

**Brief.** Large; S. iridescent cinnamon buff flecked lilac; F. flushed with lilac, the center of the flower amber flushed; stalk widely branched; growth variable; to 5 ft.

**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping; haft conspicuously reticulated cinnamon to liver brown; beard short, orange.

**Remarks.** A distinctive Ricardi hybrid, an uncertain grower in the north.

### MME. CLAUDE MONET

(Ricardi)

Self, R-V (dd) Type Gaudichau.

Denis, 1912

**Brief.** Large; manganese to velvety dull dusky purple; stalk not well-branched; growth variable to moderate; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. floppy; F. drooping; haft heavily reticulated auricula purple.

**Remarks.** A very dark Ricardi hybrid of poor growth in northern gardens.

### MRS. HAW

Self, VR-V (e) Type Queen of May.

Fryer, 1921

**Brief.** Pale to light hortense violet, bicolor in effect; very well and widely branched; growth vigorous; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. domed; F. flaring to drooping; stalk stout.

### MRS. FRED STERN

Self, R-RV (m) Type Caprice.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Light to phlox purple, beard white; pallida-cengialti habit; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring; perianth tube dark lined.

### MRS. HETTY MATSON

Bicolor, R-V (m) Type Caprice.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Large; S. light mauve; F. roods violet with lighter edge; flower rounded; pallida habit; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. overlapping; F. drooping; haft and styles edged naples yellow; crest cameo brown; beard conspicuous, yellow tipt.

**Remarks.** Free flowering and of unusually rounded form.

### MRS. S. RYDER

Self, R-V (m) Type Albert Victor.

Perry, 1910

**Brief.** Manganese violet, bicolor in effect; pallida habit; 4 ft.

**Details.** A long flower, S. floppy; F. straight-hanging; haft reticulations blurred reddish; beard white, orange tinge.

**Remarks.** An unusually tall mauve pallida.

### OLIVIER PERTHUIS

(Ricardi)

Bicolor, R-V (d) Type Atlas.

Denis, 1921

**Brief.** S. manganese violet; F. velvety pansy violet; haft and styles amber edged; stalk stout, high and well-branched; floriferous; growth vigorous; to 54 in.

**Details.** S. arched; F. drooping; beard conspicuous, yellow-orange, brown specked.

**Remarks.** Comparable to Nine Wells in color and height.

### PATRICIAN

Bicolor, V Type Othello.

Bliss, White; 1921

**Brief.** S. lavender violet; F. velvety royal purple; pallida-variegata habit; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. straight-hanging; beard conspicuous.

**Remarks.** A dull dark bicolor on order of Black Prince.

### PEAU ROUGE

Self, R (d) Type Imperator.

Cayeux, 1923

**Brief.** S. dark vinaceous; F. velvety burnt lake; stalk high branched; growth vigorous; 30 in.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring to drooping; spathes flushed; beard yellow, brown specked; styles edged amber and flecked deeper.

**Remarks.** Very dark, rather dull but almost true red. A.M. S.N.H.F. 1922.

### PERLADONNA

Self, V (e) Type Dalmatica.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Dauphins violet; beard white, brown tint; pallida habit; 42 in.

**Details.** An open flower; haft reticulations maroon.

**Remarks.** A shade deeper than Dalmatica, smaller. (Introduced as Belladonna. Name changed by A.I.S. on account of conflict).

### PETREL

(Oriflamme x E. Y. Morrison)

Bicolor, V (m) Type Baronet.

Mor. 1922, Sturt, 1923

**Brief.** S. hortense violet; F. amethyst violet shaded velvety raisin purple below beard; stalk low-branched; growth vigorous; 2 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring.

**Remarks.** Rather early for this class; distinctive in color.

### PRIMROSE

(Afterglow x Shekinah)

Self, Y (m) Type Aurea.

Sturt. 1923

**Brief.** Amber yellow the falls a lighter barium yellow; center of flower clear lemon; pallida habit; over 30 in.

**Details.** S. arching; F. flaring to drooping; haft and styles lemon yellow.

**Remarks.** Brilliant in effect, less of a self than Gold Imperial.

## PRINCESS OSRA

Plicata, V (e) Type Bridesmaid.

Bliss, White. 1922

**Brief.** S. white,  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. edge flushed and dotted wisteria violet; F. edged 1-8 inch of pale violet; pallida habit; 33 in.

**Details.** S. erect; F. incurved; haft closely reticulated; styles wisteria violet; beard orange.

**Remarks.** Similar to Damozel and others.

## RAFFET

Bicolor, VR-V (d) Type Atlas.

Vilm. 1920

**Brief.** Late, Bradley's violet with darker velvety veins on falls; stalk low and well-branched; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring to drooping.

**Remarks.** Larger but otherwise almost identical with Atlas. Valuable for extreme lateness.

## REGAN

(pallida x trojana)

Bicolor, V Type Trojana.

Hort, Wal. 1920

**Brief.** Large, S. soft bluish violet; F. anthracene violet; germanica habit; to 3 ft.

**Details.** S. overlapping; F. straight-hanging; haft conspicuous, reticulations reddish, blurred; beard conspicuous white, orange tipped.

**Remarks.** Easily comparable to Angelo, etc.

## ROBERT WALLACE

Self, VR-V (d) Type Imperator.

Perry, 1923

**Brief.** Hortense to velvety hyacinth violet; stalk low and very well-branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched, frilled; F. smoothly drooping; beard conspicuous orange tipped, brown specked; wire edge to crest.

**Remarks.** Almost Archeveque coloring but a decided improvement in other respects. Apparently similar to and darker than Mrs. Matson and Mrs. Stern.

## ROSE SALTERNE

Plicata, V (e) Type Ma Mie.

Bliss, Wal. 1922

**Brief.** White, S. faintly edged pale violet; F. distinctive, the dark violet haft reticulations extending well down the sides of the blade; pallida habit; 39 in.

**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping.

**Remarks.** Of a curious dull tone due to the heavily marked haft.

## ROTORUA

Self, V-B (e) Type Celeste.

Bliss, White. 1921

**Brief.** Aniline lilac, falls faintly veined mauve; pallida habit; 3 ft.

**Details.** Stalk short branched, crowded; S. cupped; F. flaring; beard short, yellow.

**Remarks.** Other varieties similar.

## SAN GABRIEL

Self, VR-V (e) Type Lady Foster.

Dean, 1921

**Brief.** Large, light lavender violet; stalk well-branched; growth variable; over 3 ft.

**Details.** S. arched; F. flaring, wide spread; haft finely reticulated dark brown; beard white.

**Remarks.** Very comparable to Leonato and Conquistador, a vigorous grower where hardy.



## SAUL

(Ricardi)

Bicolor, Y & R blend. Type Ossian.

Denis, 1921

**Brief.** S. chamois; F. velvety violet carmine with victoria lake lights; claw and crest heavily flecked; stalk high branched; growth vigorous; 2 ft.

**Details.** S. erect; F. flaring; haft conspicuous; beard bluish, dull orange tipped.

**Remarks.** Late flowering.

## SEAGULL

Bicolor, W & R-V Type.

Farr, 1923

**Brief.** S. gray white; F. flushed and indistinctly veined mauve; pallidavariegata habit; 30 in.

**Details.** S. erect; F. flaring; beard white pale yellow tipped.

**Remarks.** One of a small class, a poorly defined amoena.

## SEQUOIAH

((Iris King x Maori King) x Julia Marlowe)

Bicolor, V-R & O blend (d) Type Ambassadeur.

Shull, 1924

**Brief.** Large, S. light vinaceous lilac to tawny olive at base, F. velvety Blackish red-purple; stalk well-branched; growth vigorous; to 4 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped, F. straight-hanging, wire edged with very narrow light border; beard yellow.

**Remarks.** H.M.A.I.S. 1924.

## SILVER MIST

Self, VB-V (e) Type Celeste.

Dykes, White. 1921

**Brief.** Early; bluish lavender; fine substance; foliage yellow-green; cengialti habit; 20 in.

**Details.** S. arching; F. smoothly drooping; haft white, conspicuous, with gray to dull violet reticulations; styles dull ivory at edge.

**Remarks.** Of cengialti habit and unusual substance, otherwise most similar to Bluet.

## SIMONE VAISSIERE

Bicolor, V (m) Type Amas.

Millet, 1921

**Brief.** Large; S. light chicory blue; F. hortense violet; germanica habit; 2 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. horizontal, satiny; haft and beard conspicuous, orange tipped.

**Remarks.** Compared to Oriflamme but larger and with stiffly flaring falls.

## SOLANA

Bicolor, Y & VR-R Type Maori King.

Shull, 1923

**Brief.** S. lemon chrome; F. bordeaux to burnt lake; stalk low and well-branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.

**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring to drooping; beard yellow; foliage tinged at base.

**Remarks.** Brilliant and effective if well grown.

## SOUVENIR DE LOETITIA MICHAUD

(Ricardi x Corrida)

Self, V (e) Type Caterina.

Millet, 1923

**Brief.** Very large; verbenia to light hyssop violet; stalk well-branched; growth vigorous; to 4 ft.

**Details.** Petals veined in effect; S. arched; F. flaring; haft reticulated olive ochre; foliage short and broad.  
**Remarks.** Corrida in color but of enormous size.

### SPEED

Bicolor, V (m) Type Trojana. Hort, Wal, 1922  
**Brief.** S. clear pallid violet; F. haematoxylin violet; stalk well and widely branched; growth vigorous; over 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. arching; F. drooping to straight-hanging; haft light, very faint amber at base; beard white, yellow-orange tip.  
**Remarks.** Quite distinct in the contrast of blue-and red-violet.

### SUZANNE AUTISSIER

(Ricardi)

Bicolor, R-V (m) Type Atlas. Denis, 1923  
**Brief.** S. light mauve; F. heavily veined petunia violet; center flushed amber; stalk low and very well branched; growth usually vigorous; 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. floppy; F. straight-hanging; pinched; haft with broken reticulations of pecan brown; beard conspicuous, yellow tip; styles light buff with ivory edge, striking.  
**Remarks.** Rather distinctive but dull.

### SWATARA

Self, R-V (m) Type Shrewsbury. Farr, 1918  
**Brief.** Light mauve to pleroma violet; beard intense orange; pallida habit; 3 ft.  
**Details.** Bicolor in effect; S. erect; F. drooping; haft light, conspicuous with faint olive reticulations.

### TAFFETA

Bicolor, V blend (e) Type Lavendulacea. Cleveland, 1920  
**Brief.** S. light heliotrope gray flushed deep olive buff; F. dull lavender; pallida habit; 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring; styles olive buff.  
**Remarks.** Rather attractive smoke-tone.

### TRIANON

Self, blend (e) Type Cherubin. Vilm. 1921  
**Brief.** Pale pinkish buff, falls flushed purplish lilac; variegata habit; 30 in.  
**Details.** An open flower; F. incurved; beard conspicuous, yellow; spathes flushed.

### TROADES

Bicolor, V-RR (m) Type Mme. Blanche Pion. Perry, 1923  
**Brief.** S. purplish vinaceous; F. neutral red with light edge; pallida-variegata habit; to 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. erect; F. drooping; haft conspicuous, flushed amber; beard light yellow tip.  
**Remarks.** Described as 1 yr. plant; it possesses none of the brilliance of the introducer's description.

## TROPIC SEAS

(Trojana x Lent A. Williamson)

- Bicolor, V (d) Type Trojana. Shull, 1924  
**Brief.** S. Dauphins violet, F. velvety mulberry purple; stalk well and widely branched; growth very vigorous; 4 ft.  
**Details.** S. arching, F. drooping; beard conspicuous, yellow.  
**Remarks.** Of marked vigor and freedom of growth.

## TURCO

- Bicolor, R-V (m) Type Mme. Blanche Pion. Vilm. 1921  
**Brief.** S. purplish lilac; F. lobelia violet; flower buff at center; variegata habit; 30 in.  
**Details.** S. arched; F. drooping; haft closely reticulated olive to garnet, conspicuous; beard conspicuous, orange tipped, brown speckled.

## VANESSA

- Bicolor, YO-O & R-V Type Darius. Bliss, White, 1922  
**Brief.** S. honey yellow; F. veined pansy violet, light edge; variegata habit; 30 in.  
**Details.** S. cupped; F. flaring, ruffled; haft white; beard orange.  
**Remarks.** Free flowering but not distinctive.

## VIKING

- Self, VR-V Type Albert Victor. Bliss, White, 1919  
**Brief.** A true lavender violet self; pallida habit; 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. arched; F. drooping; haft finely reticulated maroon at edge.  
**Remarks.** Clear color but not distinctive.

## YELLOW HAMMER

- Self, Int. Y (m) Type Queen Flavia. Denis, Wal. 1921  
**Brief.** Empire yellow flecked a deeper wax yellow; short branched; growth moderate; 18 in.  
**Details.** S. conic; F. flaring; haft wax yellow to olive vinaceous; beard conspicuous, orange.  
**Remarks.** Deeper toned than Helge but lower and less clear in color than Soledad.

## YEOMAN

(Dominion)

- Bicolor, V (m) Type Black Prince. Bliss, White, 1922  
**Brief.** S. pale violet, dark wire edge; F. satiny mulberry purple; stance exceptional; stalk widely branched; growth vigorous; 33 in.  
**Details.** S. erect; F. drooping; haft conspicuous, reticulated chestnut brown; beard conspicuous.  
**Remarks.** Between Speed and Dominion; clear attractive color.

## YOLANDE

(cypriana x Gaudichau)

- Bicolor, V Type Gaudichau Millet, 1923  
**Brief.** Large; S. lavender violet; F. dusky violet, haft conspicuous, light; stalk well-branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.  
**Details.** S. floppy; F. straight-hanging; beard not conspicuous, very slightly tinted bluish.  
**Remarks.** Described as a young plant. Lighter and a bit more blue-purple than Gaudichau.



## ZOUAVE

Plicata, R-RV Type Bridesmaid.

Vilm. 1922

**Brief.** White, S. veiled with lilac, F. dotted manganese violet at edges; plicata habit; 30 in.

**Details.** S. revolute; F. drooping; haft and styles flushed antimony yellow; beard white; styles with wire edge.

**Remarks.** Mary Garden markings on a clear white ground.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AND WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AT FARR'S

You have heard of B. H. Farr as the pioneer American Iris grower; as the one who popularized irises in America; first loving them; then collecting all available varieties regardless of cost; then hybridizing the largest group of standard and accepted seedlings as yet originated by any American grower; then advertising them in color and listing them in a catalog deluxe; then distributing Farr's Gold Medal Irises to the far corners of the world.

The catalogue de luxe has disappeared. It could not be distributed without charging for it and a fair charge placed a serious limit on the number of people on the mailing list. In its place have appeared several issues of **BETTER PLANTS—BY FARR**, and that is exactly **what's happening at Farr's**. Better plants, better varieties.

Here are some of the accomplishments since the introduction and slogan of the Better Plants policy, two years ago.

(1) The employment of a university trained and nursery experienced general manager; someone who not only knows and loves plants but whose duty it is to systematize the Farr organization and the Farr activities; someone to assure you of receiving not only choice and rare specialties, but of receiving them after efficient and modern plans and methods.

(2) The discarding of hundreds of iris varieties from the catalog list. Retaining only the best varieties of their class and the worth while newer introductions.

(3) The innovation of maintaining duplicate plantings of every variety by setting out a complete iris planting each fall. No grower is able to always possess top notch roots of every variety, but the Farr method permits the selection of the choicest roots from two to four separate plantings.

(4) The installation of perpetual stock record. Every variety is carded and as sales are made the quantities are deducted from the supply on hand. When you now place an order with Farr, the return mail acknowledgement will furnish immediate and accurate information as to the ability to supply.

(5) During the past two years, Farr seedlings have been featured second to the foreign introductions with which the country has been flooded. This spring's bloom was the first real opportunity for checking and comparison. There are many wonderful creations among the new foreign things but 50% of them should never have been introduced. Prices in the 1925 Farr catalogue will be an excellent criterion as to what is thought of them.

(6) From now on Farr seedlings and those of other American growers are going to be featured right along with the choicest things from abroad. We do not produce many Ambassadeurs or Dominions, but we at least do not introduce a Seminole and then a dozen more first cousins. This decision is not the result of our opinion alone. Spring 1924 visitors unanimously lamented the modesty of American originators after they observed and compared new American irises with the bulk of imported sorts.

(7) Farr's are considering the plan of putting irises on a Holland bulb basis—selling in dozen or half dozen lots instead of one each. Particularly the older and standard sorts. Why shouldn't the new home owner plant a group of six Quaker Lady at \$3 per dozen, instead of one Quaker Lady at 75 cents? There is just as much profit in the "lot" order as the "each" order and surely irises are intended for mass plantings. Whether or not this will be done, depends on how many members of the American Iris Society, including yourself, write us and express their opinions. Do not hesitate, also, to express your approval or disapproval of whatever else has been stated in this advertisement. We don't know it all.

Also see to it that you receive a copy of the 1925 issue of **BETTER PLANTS—BY FARR** which will be ready next February.

Yours for Better Irises,  
B. H. FARR

September 15, 1924

# Iris Visits, 1924

R. S. Sturtevant

On the receipt of a telegram from Mr. Wareham I started westward on May 21st after a hectic rush to get things cleaned up before my departure. Like all the rest of us Mr. Wareham first thought nothing would ever come into flower and then found everything all ablaze at once so I departed well ahead of my schedule. My own garden was lovely with sheets of *Phlox divaricata* and forget-me-nots on the slopes and in and among the irises. There were drifts of tulips in the garden proper and of daffodils down by the pond as an edging to the beds of Siberian irises, but of iris there were but a few, the earliest of the *pumila* hybrids. We have long given up trying to collect named *pumilas* but the seedlings give a similar range of color. Of the named varieties, Schneekuppe and the less clear tone of The Bride, Sabrina with almost the blue of *I. pumila azurea*, Berlioz, a fifteen inch purple with purpled spathes, and Zanzibar a deep purple blend are the only things that have preserved their identity. Among the seedlings however in yellow tinted selfs and purple bicolors, Raj with almost the color of Archeveque and Yelo, a deep yellow seedling of *Flavescens* with the substance and spreading falls of a miniature *variegata* seem distinct. All these are in long foot-wide borders, or narrow drifts on the slopes of the rock-garden and it was from this slight preface that I was catapulted into the glories of Mrs. Taft's garden in Cincinnati.

There the irises were in full bloom, there were flowerful blocks of such fine things as Lady Foster, Prospero, Ann Page, Mlle. Schwartz and many more. I was a most non-committal observer, I had to think twice even before I identified the commonest of the older varieties and when it came to a consideration of Mr. Wareham's really marvellous seedlings I was wordless. Just to cite one instance, a bed four by twenty-five where every plant and flower seemed to surpass *Souvenir Mme. de Gaudichau*, in size and color and all the good qualities. Later I was able to pick out a beautiful blue-toned "Elegy" and a redder-toned Congo, but the others were hardly to be distinguished from one another or from their parent. That indeed was the chief drawback with Mr. Wareham's seedlings. As a whole they ranked with Cardinal, Glamour, and Gaudichau and yet it was difficult to pick out more than a dozen or fifteen that were sufficiently distinct to name. I have seen few of the Dominion Race as well established as these which considerably limits my judgment, but Pachyderm and New World were clearly finer than a near-by block of Prospero while Rosy Youth I should like to compare with Morning Splendour (Shull). Unfortunately a number of Mr. Wareham's registrations of 1923 did not bloom this season.

By the way, he permits me to share with you my joy in one of the richest iris stories I have heard. For two years the gentleman carefully transferred pollen to the beard of the flower to be fertilized and when others wanted instruction who can blame him for disliking to pass on his hard-won knowledge. His seedlings now show his wisdom in using the finest of parents though I do not agree with his theory that iris colors may be mingled as one would mix pigments.

Mrs. Taft's place is a delightfully hit-or-miss sort of a place. From the public road you are greeted by a steep iris-clad bank, then an equally steep narrow drive leads up to a big pergola half-hidden in wistaria. Two lovely Chinese elephants in porcelain, turquoise with multi-colored howdahs, guard the steps, a quick swing and you reach the shaded house. Beyond, on the crown of the hill is an iris-girt lawn, a delightful pool garden and tea-house, and on the slope where one may look

out over the chimneys of Cincinnati, solid plantings of irises. It was there I spent my time wading back and forth among their glories, and I should have been glad to stay right there, but there was an exhibit of the Garden Club to be judged and Mr. Wareham was good enough to take me to other Cincinnati gardens.

An exhibit, however fine the flowers and the staging, cannot compete with a garden full of iris. Mr. Phillips himself is a most retiring gentleman and though a big border of *pallida* looks at you over the picket fence, his garden is retiring too and one hardly realizes that it lies back of apartment houses. I like that kind of a garden, but I wish its owner would let some of his work come out into the light. He has a fine stock of *Dominion*, he was almost the first to import it, and he has used it freely for crossing and then Oh! impossible to appreciate, has shared the seed crop with others. I saw a few fine seedlings in his own garden, but equally fine ones from the same source in Dr. Ayres', much to the confusion of that enthusiast. Here is a nice point in ethics. Mr. Wareham first used *Dominion* pollen in this country and we all follow suit, but Mr. Phillips has gone a step further and given away the seed. Dr. Ayres has at least one seedling worthy of introduction. Whose is it?

One gets little impression of details from a hurried visit and I think I was more interested in an amazing collection of alliums than in the irises though I got descriptions of a lot of new things.

At Mrs. Emigholz's I was reminded of my own crowded garden area. She has, I think, the finest collection of novelties I have seen, close planted, but carefully recorded in her notebook. There was a bed with *Yeoman*, *Glamour*, *Duke of Bedford*, *Canopus*, and others of the *Dominion* Race, *Edith Cavell* and *San Gabriel*. In fact my whole time was taken up with deadly descriptions and I hardly responded to the owner's quick active interest. She had at her tongue's end the names of the newest things and her seedlings just coming into bloom showed that she was using the finest novelties as parents. I want at least a day rather than a miserly hour on my next visit.

Dr. Ayres is perched on a bluff overlooking the broad valley of the Little Miami and has wonderful views out towards the Kentucky hills. The drive winds steeply up to the plateau where an old house sits peacefully beneath the trees. The almost overhanging banks must have been lovely in Red-bud time and every open spot was now full of iris color. Mrs. Ayres has a quiet bit of perennial garden with a vista down broad steps and the long curving iris beds follow the contour of the ground. Dr. Ayres plans for large masses of one variety and the clear, light colors were lovely in their setting of green. His seed plot is still small but I found four or five very distinct things, two of the *Dominion* Race and three promising reds on the lines of *Ember* and *Caporal*.

From Cincinnati I made a flying trip to Philadelphia and Washington for the annual meeting. In Philadelphia I was ahead of the season and missed seeing Mrs. Lloyd's circular iris garden. It is really a lovely sight, the irises rising on two terraces above the central sunken pool, lavenders to one side, then mauve and purple, bronze and yellow in broad masses. It was there in the pink segment that I compared varieties last year and decided that *Georgia* was the loveliest in mass but this year *Georgia* seemed darker in color and lost its delicacy while *Susan Bliss*, which on close inspection shows a rather disagreeable blurring of yellow at the haft, is from a distance, a true soft pink. I much wish to compare block plantings of *Susan*, *Wild Rose*, and *J. B. Dumas*. *Wild Rose* has a finer sheen and an added depth of color and *Susan* is the sturdiest of the trio.



The iris garden lies to one end of a broad terrace whence you get a wide view of rolling meadows and classic groves while at the other end a broad stretch of greensward leads out to the swimming pool.

Mr. Wister's garden is almost as hit-and-miss as that of Mrs. Taft. It is an old place with great beeches and a wonderful magnolia in the turn-round, a place of many units each shut off from the next by hedges of flowering shrubs. He is a collector above all things, one can pick out *Philadelphus virginianus* as the best of all the named varieties, or *Syringa* Mme. Morel as of unusual beauty, and with the late season I found him classifying his big collection of tree peonies, some single, some double, some white, or deep crimson, and a smaller number of beauties in blush and an almost salmon red, the most gorgeous things one can imagine. Few of the late iris were in bloom, but I marked Ruby, Robert Wallace, and Pioneer as well worth watching. All are tall and red-toned, distinct one from another and from other varieties. Marian Cran I did not like at all and Lady Charles Allom, Duke of York and Eden Phillpotts, though of good quality aroused no feeling of envy. I rather think Mr. Wister either pets, or neglects his plants and I do not wholly subscribe to his depreciation of so many of the English and French introductions.

From there I went out to Mr. Scott's. Broad terraces drop down from an old stone house to a broad meadow where the seedlings find space. They call it a new garden but already the vegetation has a settled look and I reveled in a retaining wall planted thickly with all sorts of rock-plants and with graceful bushes of *Rosa hugonis* at its corners. On the next terrace were perennials in variety, a fine lot of Japanese tree peonies, some prize lilacs and many groups of irises, etc. Steepway was just coming into bloom and Mr. Scott warned me that it faded rather badly in the hot sun, so I am replanting mine in a cooler spot for its colors are too lovely to loose. No. 4 which I noted last year did not come to its previous standard, or perhaps it would be truer to say that my standard had been raised.

Mr. Scott was good enough to drive us down to Washington and though it was a misty, mirky day I much enjoyed the rolling country. The road was straight and narrow, the valleys broad and open, the hills pleasantly clad with old trees and here and there were old stone houses, tall and unbelievably narrow. The battlefield of Brandywine was a peaceful spot with great trees rising from the green and further on the

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***Iris setosa (Hookeri)* at Baker Island, Me.**

**Photo by E. A. S. Peckham**

Susquehanna, bordered by the wall of an old canal marked a change in soil which was shown in all the vegetation.

Like other exhibits that at Washington was well-staged and attractive, but I prefer gardens every time. Mr. James M. R. Adams carried off the medal and many awards most deservedly and Messrs. Fendall, Shull, and Simpson received Honorable Mentions on some seedlings. I concur thoroughly in the awards to Sequoiah (Shull), Arlington (Simpson), and Loudon (Fendall) but am doubtful about Tropic Seas and L'Aiglon (Shull). Tropic Seas is splendidly vigorous and branched, it has height and size and yet just misses being very distinctive in color and the possession of that indefinable quality of poise which is based on a pleasing placement of well-proportioned flowers on the stalk. I was sorry that Sir Galahad and Julia Marlowe had been listed the previous year as, though not sold, they must be considered as introduced. They are sister plants of fine height and vigor, their coloring between that of Isoline and Ensign or Leverrier, their one fault a Magnifica form.

Mr. Shull's garden is just a back-yard where a line of yearling plants looks like three-year-olds in my own less rich soil. The irises were at their best and I picked out a lovely tall big flower of Mme. Cheri type, but a lighter blended pink, which has since been named Elaine. Mr. Shull has been specializing in Troyana crosses and though he has a considerable infusion of variegata, his plants for the most part are big upstanding things though curiously enough they are not quite as impressive in mass as Mr. Wareham's Dominion seedlings. It is due, I think, to a slight lack of substance perhaps because certainly they showed equal height, size, and branching and a comparable range of color.

Mr. Morrison moved his garden last fall and the iris were not at their best but it is fascinating to wind in through the scrub of chesnut and dog-wood and suddenly look down into a nucleus of a garden, a broad box-edged path with a central circle and to either side clumps of irises with bush roses behind. Later there is to be a series of three terraces running down from a garden house, but the box edged paths



The "B-Hive" at Redlands, Calif  
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alone give emphasis to the design which we so rarely find in iris gardens. Altho Mr. Morrison has done little of late he has used Caterina, Alcazar and others of the big varieties to get size and branching and height into the progeny. There is quite a wide range of color and though I have turned down Kera and the plicata Somorin, in my own garden I have discarded practically all the Bliss plicatas for Damozel. Sophronia is a beauty, but I question whether it has a place in a garden where Argentina thrives. Joya and Petrel are deep toned and not over tall, the first very blue, the other a rather unusually solid red-purple, but I think both will win a permanent place in the garden arranged for color effect. Kestrel was unusually fine, very suggestive of the Dominion race and Glamour in particular, while Dusk suggests Ambassador and I suspect is even taller. Chlorinda I do not care for, but I cannot deny it a place in even a fairly small collection. It is a soft yellow, very sparsely veined on the falls and of large size. Baldur is in a class with Alcazar, Canopus, and Warrior, very rich and velvety, and Montserrat is a pale edition. As Miss Sturtevant has been introducing his seedlings we have had plenty of chance to turn down all that did not seem worthy.

Mr. Simpson is the third of the Washington breeders, the last to join, but even now he has some good things and a splendid variety of color combined with size, branching and at least good height. Arlingto was his first, between Amas and Merlin in size and form and altogether satisfying. No. 4a is bluer but not quite as fine a finish, and among the unnamed seedlings were some most promising yellows and impressions of unnamed material. Here one goes down through an old orchard of pears and apples to the serried ranks of irises.

This marked the finish of the first week of my trip and I turned my steps back to Cincinnati and the West, weary with one night stands and too bewildered with new impressions to form any considered judgment. I shall report the balance of my trip at a later date.



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